

Message

From: Thundiyil, Karen [Thundiyil.Karen@epa.gov]
Sent: 7/15/2022 3:58:09 PM
To: Niebling, William [Niebling.William@epa.gov]; Laverdiere, Maria [Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov]
CC: Richardson, RobinH [Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov]; Haman, Patricia [Haman.Patricia@epa.gov]; Levine, Carolyn [Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Crypto Bicameral Letter

Carolyn – can you send me the Lummis letter

From: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 11:57 AM
To: Thundiyil, Karen <Thundiyil.Karen@epa.gov>; Laverdiere, Maria <Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov>
Cc: Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Haman, Patricia <Haman.Patricia@epa.gov>; Levine, Carolyn <Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Crypto Bicameral Letter

Thanks, Karen. Can you please put all three letters (I have the same count) into one clean email and I'll engage some AO folks on a comprehensive response strategy?

From: Thundiyil, Karen <Thundiyil.Karen@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 11:28 AM
To: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>; Laverdiere, Maria <Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov>
Cc: Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Haman, Patricia <Haman.Patricia@epa.gov>; Levine, Carolyn <Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Subject: Crypto Bicameral Letter

Another crypto letter has arrived. By my count, this is the third congressional correspondence on this topic. Please share any feedback from Agency leadership on how to address this latest letter in the scheme of the previous letters.

In the attached letter dated today (July 15), Sens Warren, Markey, Merkley, Whitehouse; Reps Huffman and Tlaib want:

1. EPA to work together with DOE:

Given these concerns, it is imperative that your agencies work together to address the lack of information about cryptomining's energy use and environmental impacts, and use all available authorities at your disposal, such as Section 114 of the Clean Air Act and 15 U.S.C. § 772(a) and (b), to require reporting of energy use and emissions from cryptominers.

2. Paper and briefing by mid-August:

We ask that you provide us with a written description of your authority to require such reporting, and any plan to do so, and provide us with a staff-level briefing on this matter by no later than August 15, 2022.

This letter probably fits more squarely into OAR's bin than the April Huffman letter (attached) or the Lummis letter Carolyn shared.

If it decided that EPA will respond to #2, OAR and other offices may be able to leverage the feedback they are providing to OSTP.

While direction is pending, I am holding this letter before initiating the process for a response.

Karen.

From: Thundiyil, Karen

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2022 11:41 AM

To: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>; Levine, Carolyn <Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>

Cc: Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Laverdiere, Maria <Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov>; Haman, Patricia <Haman.Patricia@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Bicameral Letter on Digital Asset Mining

I'll flag that the Lummis letter is a response to the Huffman letter (attached) I sent around earlier seeking guidance. I suggest at least syncing the timing of the responses to the two letters.

Based on Huffman's statements to the press, he won't welcome this kind of response.

Also, EPA got a letter from crypto execs (attached) that is a point-by-point rebuttal of the Huffman letter.

Karen.

From: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2022 11:05 AM

To: Levine, Carolyn <Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>

Cc: Thundiyil, Karen <Thundiyil.Karen@epa.gov>; Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Laverdiere, Maria <Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov>; Haman, Patricia <Haman.Patricia@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Bicameral Letter on Digital Asset Mining

Plus Karen (and Pat in absentia). That makes sense.

From: Levine, Carolyn <Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2022 10:19 AM

To: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>

Cc: Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Laverdiere, Maria <Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Bicameral Letter on Digital Asset Mining

hi,

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Carolyn Levine

*Office of Congressional and
Intergovernmental Relations*

U.S. EPA

(202) 564-1859 (forwarded)

From: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2022 8:36 PM
To: Levine, Carolyn <Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Cc: Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Laverdiere, Maria <Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Bicameral Letter on Digital Asset Mining

Carolyn – I think crypto mining might flow to you but I don't really know. What would you say? If you, here's a draft of how I propose we respond.

-Wm.

[intro para]

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

[closing para]

From: Cassady, Alison <Cassady.Alison@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2022 2:42 AM
To: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>; Cope, Grant <Cope.Grant@epa.gov>
Cc: Laverdiere, Maria <Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Bicameral Letter on Digital Asset Mining

Grant is **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**. My suggestion is a short response since the letter is rather short.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Alison L. Cassady
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cell: (202) 941-6036

From: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2022 5:12 PM
To: Cope, Grant <Cope.Grant@epa.gov>; Cassady, Alison <Cassady.Alison@epa.gov>
Cc: Laverdiere, Maria <Laverdiere.Maria@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Bicameral Letter on Digital Asset Mining

Hi – see attached. Would appreciate some guidance on a response since it doesn't fit neatly to a program office.

From: Stewart, Adam (Lummis) <Adam_Stewart@lummis.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2022 3:47 PM
To: Niebling, William <Niebling.William@epa.gov>
Cc: Land, Chris (Lummis) <Chris_Land@lummis.senate.gov>; allison.behuniak@mail.house.gov
Subject: Bicameral Letter on Digital Asset Mining

Hi William,

Please see the attached bicameral letter to Administrator Regan on Digital Asset Mining. Thanks!

Best,
Adam



Adam Stewart | Senior Policy Advisor
U.S. Senator Cynthia M. Lummis (like “hummus”!)
(o) 202-224-3424 | lummis.senate.gov
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